

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 06334 271519Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 /035 W
-----097480 272354Z /65

R 271251Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5897
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUIOT
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 6334

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ELAB, SHUM, PE
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON POLITICAL AND LABOR DEVELOPMENTS:
MINEWORKERS STRIKE IN LA OROYA

REF: LIMA 6203

1. MINEWORKERS IN LA OROYA AND SURROUNDING CITIES BEGAN AN INDEFINITE STRIKE JULY 25 AGAINST THE STATE-OWNED CENTROMIN MINING COMPANY. REPORTEDLY 50 PERCENT OF THE 13,000 CENTROMIN WORKERS ARE OBSERVING THE STRIKE. THE GOP DECLARED THE STRIKE ILLEGAL JULY 25 AND GAVE THE STRIKING WORKERS 24 HOURS TO RETURN TO THEIR JOBS. IN ADDITION, THE INTERIOR MINISTRY HAS ORDER THE ARREST OF UNION LEADERS AND "AGITATORS" RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STRIKE.

2. REMORS OF OTHER NEW STRIKES CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN LIMA. ONE RUMOR PREDICTS A STRIKE BY THE FAR-LEFT BANKWORKERS (FEB) UNION BUT AS OF NOON JULY 26 THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF ANY DISRUPTION IN BANKING SERVICES AND NONE IS NOW EXPECTED EARLIER THAN NEXT WEEK. OTHER RUMORS CENTER ON A STRIKE THE EARLY PART OF AUGUST IN PROTEST AGAINST THE LARGE NUMBERS OF LABOR LEADERS AND RANK-AND-FILE UNION WORKERS REPORTEDLY STILL DETAINED FOLLOWING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 06334 271519Z

THE JULY 29 STRIKE. PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK TO THE NATIONAL JULY 28, PERUVIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY. IT IS PROBABLE THAT FURTHER LABOR AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS WILL DEPEND UPON ANNOUNCEMENTS, IF FORTHCOMING, CONCERNING NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES OR PLANS FOR RETURN TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT.

3. THE INDEPENDENT BI-WEEKLY CARETAS APPEARED JULY 25, FOUR DAYS LATE, WITH DETAILED COVERAGE INCLUDING PHOTOS OF THE JULY 19 DISTURBANCES. CARETAS DIRECTOR ENRIQUE ZILERI TOLD EMBOFFS JULY 25 THAT THE ISSUE WAS SUBMITTED TO GOP CENSORS (REFTEL) WITH THE WARNING THAT ANYTHING CUT OUT WOULD BE LEFT BLANK ON PRINTED PAGE SO THAT READERS WOULD BE AWARE OF CENSORSHIP. THE CENSORS DID NOT DELETE ANYTHING FROM THE MAGAZINE. THE JULY 25 ISSUE ALSO INCLUDED A NOTICE CONCERNING THE "PRIOR CENSORSHIP" UNDER WHICH IT WAS BEING PUBLISHED.

4. THE INDEPENDENT WEEKLY EQUIS X PROMINENTLY DEDICATED THE FRONT COVER OF ITS JULY 26 ISSUE, WHICH HAS YET TO APPEAR ON NEWS STANDS IN THE JULY 26 ADDITION OF THE DAILY EXPRESO. BOTH CARETAS AND EQUIS X APPEAR TO BE DANCING A DELICATE POLITICAL MINUET WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THE ISSUE OF CENSORSHIP. THESE ACTIONS FOLLOW THE GOP'S MOST SERIOUS WARNING YET TO THE INDEPENDENT PRESS ISSUED BY INFORMATION (SINADI) CHIEF GENERAL CESAR VINATEA MONTENEGRO JULY 22. VINATEA SAID THAT IF THE FREE PRESS DOES NOT SHOW THE PROPER RESPECT FOR NATIONAL UNITY AND AVOID DIRECT OR INDIRECT SUPPORT OF SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS THE MAGAZINES WILL BE CLOSED DOWN. THE GOP IS PARTICULARLY UPSET WITH THE PROMINENT COVERAGE THE INDEPENDENT MAGAZINES GAVE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LIMA 06334 271519Z

RUMORS CONCERNING INTERNAL GOP PROBLEMS JUST PRIOR TO THE JULY 19 STRIKE.

5. THE DIRECTOR OF A LOCAL RADIO STATION IN CUZCO, SCENE OF SERIOUS DISTURBANCES IN JUNE, TOLD EMBOFF JULY 26 THAT PROTESTS CONTINUE IN THAT CITY, ALTHOUGH ON A SMALL SCALE AND WITHOUT VIOLENCE.

6. COMMENT: THE CENTROMIN WORKERS DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE JULY 19 24-HOUR STRIKE BECAUSE, AS THEY ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME, THEY ALREADY HAD DECIDED UPON THEIR OWN STRIKE FOR JULY 25. THE GOP ISSUED STERN WARNINGS OF DIRE CONSEQUENCES TO THE CENTROMIN WORKERS PARTICIPATING IN THIS NEW STRIKE, WARNINGS WHICH HAVE BEEN IGNORED BY AT LEAST HALF THE UNIONS INVOLVED. THERE MAY BE A SERIOUS IMPASSE SHOULD THE GOP FOLLOW-UP ON ITS THREAT TO LOCK UP UNION LEADERS SINCE ONE OF THE STRIKING WORKER'S MAJOR DEMANDS IS THE RELEASE OF UNION EMPLOYEES ALREADY DETAINED. THIS NEW STRIKE IN A VITAL ECONOMIC SECTOR THE SPATE OF RUMORS OF MORE STRIKES AND DISSATISFACTION OVER THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN GENERAL CONTRIBUTE

TO AN UNEASY ATMOSPHERE PRIOR TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE
NATION JULY 28.
SHLAUDEMAM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINING INDUSTRY, GENERAL STRIKES, LABOR UNIONS, STRIKE SETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIMA06334
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770269-0773
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770714/aaaaamd1.tel
Line Count: 119
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eafe8563-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LIMA 6203
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1736508
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UPDATE ON POLITICAL AND LABOR DEVELOPMENTS: MINEWORKERS STRIKE IN LA OROYA
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ELAB, SHUM, EMIN, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/efae8563-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009